

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR (Chelyabinsk Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Information on the Chelyabinsk Area

DATE DISTR.

9 JUL 1959

*(to be study including  
military installation, power  
plant, tractor factory &  
forced labor)*

NO. PAGES

1

REFERENCES

DATE OF  
INFO.

50X1-HUM

PLACE &  
DATE ACQ.

50X1-HUM

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

location of industrial installations, on the main city streets and buildings, and on the transportation system in the Chelyabinsk area and in Chelyabinsk Oblast as a whole. Brief mention is made of Kyshtym, which was declared an "off limits area" in

The railroad line, which passed through Kyshtym, was diverted from the town by a ten-kilometer detour, several kilometers away from Kyshtym. Concentration camp inmates in the area worked on the construction of "secret plants" in Kyshtym.

50X1-HUM

MVD guards

were transferred from the concentration camps in the area to Kyshtym.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	#	15	FBI		AEC					
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	----	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

## CHELYABINSK URBAN AREA AND SECRET AREA NEAR KYSHTYM

General

1. [redacted] Chelyabinsk (N 55-10, E 61-24). 50X1-HUM  
 The present name was given to the city after the 1917-18 Revolution. During the Czarist Reign, the present city of Chelyabinsk had been only a small village, and had another name [redacted]. There was no 50X1-HUM industry in Chelyabinsk prior to 1917-18. Some of the industry in Chelyabinsk was established in the 1930's but most of the industrialization occurred during and after W.W.II. The village Pershino, located about four kilometers north of Chelyabinsk, and Bekalstroy, about six kilometers north of Chelyabinsk, were incorporated in 1952 into the city of Chelyabinsk. In 1952, the area of Chelyabinsk extended about 18 kilometers from south to north (from northern shore of Lake Smolino up to and including Bekalstroy), and about eight kilometers from west to east. The general area was flat, with small, insignificant land rises in the north, near Bekalstroy. A wooded area of fir, pine, birch, aspen and various coniferous trees surrounded the city. The river Miass, about 100 meters wide, depth unknown, flowed northwest of the center of Chelyabinsk. The Lake Smolino, south of Chelyabinsk, was a salt water lake. The temperature fell in December, January, February and March to minus 40° Centigrade. In July and August the temperature rose to plus 30° Centigrade. The other months the temperature varied from zero to plus 15° Centigrade. From December to April the river Miass was frozen solid. Snow started to fall in late October, and with the exception of two or three main thoroughfares remained on the streets until April. There were many snowfalls, but little rain during the rest of the year. The climate was dry and windy, the strongest winds occurring in February. In summer there were many gnats and mosquitoes in Chelyabinsk. As a whole, the climate was a healthy one.

Population

2. In 1949 the population was about 750,000 and in 1953 the population was about 900,000. The population increased steadily each year and new factories and living quarters were constantly under construction. As stated above in paragraph one, Bekalstroy and Pershino became part of Chelyabinsk in 1952. There were plans to build up the undeveloped area between Chelyabinsk proper and Bekalstroy, and [redacted] at present (1959) the population should be about 1,000,000. During W.W.II a large part of the Kirov Tractor Factory was evacuated from Leningrad to Chelyabinsk, where it remained and was known as the Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant named Kirova. A small part of the original Leningrad plant was sent to Kuybyshev, where it was in operation in 1953. Together with the factory, thousands of employees and their families came to Chelyabinsk and remained there after W.W.II. Also, many new factories were established in Chelyabinsk during and after W.W.II. The majority of the inhabitants were Russians from the European USSR who emigrated to Chelyabinsk. There was a small insignificant minority of indigenous Tatars. 50X1-HUM
3. The chief occupation of the city inhabitants was factory work. In addition to the tractor plant mentioned above there was a coke plant, metallurgical

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

50X1-HUM

plant, zinc plant, a large chemical plant, a tube rolling mill, an agricultural machinery plant and a mechanical machine repair plant. (Refer to paragraph four, points 1, 2, 6, 8, 15 and 16 respectively for further details).

Public Utilities, Housing and Factories

4. Reference is made to page 12 . a pinpointed location of plants in Chelyabinsk

50X1-HUM

The following legend identifies the numerical designations:

- Point 1. Coke Plant - had two coke batteries, size of area unknown.

50X1-HUM

in the fall of 1951 the second coke battery was activated, and the opening day was a big holiday for the employees of the coke plant.

in this plant coal was processed into coke. A yellow smoke from the coke plant chimneys could be seen from the Metallurgical Plant (point 2 below) . Frequently the wind blew over a terrible smell which originated from the coke plant.

50X1-HUM

- Point 2. Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant. Refer to a previously submitted report entitled Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant, a detailed description of this plant.

50X1-HUM

- Point 3. Housing area. This was the housing area for the workers of the Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant. This area was known as Bakalstroy. (Refer to page 14 , sketch of Bakalstroy). this area (Bakalstroy) and a part of the metallurgical plant were constructed by German prisoners of war and forced labor during and after W.W.II.

50X1-HUM

- Point 4. Concentration Camps. This area consisted of six or more concentration camps. The areas designated as 4a and 4b were for women forced laborers and prisoners of war respectively.

there were still German prisoners of war in the Chelyabinsk area in 1949-1953. With respect to forced labor, in 1953, such labor was used to build a new railroad bypass and other construction projects near Kyshtym (N 55-44, E 60-33) located about 80 kilometers north of Chelyabinsk.

50X1-HUM

described the camp area as being about one kilometer square, surrounded by several rows of barbed wire three meters high. On each corner were wooden towers about seven meters high, manned by sentries armed with submachine guns. Passersby could see many one-story wooden barracks, 50-60 meters long and 10 meters wide. The immediate camp area was off limits, and was guarded by MVD troops, some of whom had vicious gray police dogs on leashes. It was a common sight to see the prisoners of war (still in their German military uniforms) and the male and female forced labor being escorted on foot from the camp on their way to work (via railroad). They were guarded by MVD troops in khaki

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

-4-

uniforms, with red shoulderboards, and a blue-red garrison cap. Whereas the number of prisoners of war and forced laborers was secret, [ ] estimates [ ] were 100,000 to 150,000 concentration camp inmates in the Chelyabinsk area. [ ]

50X1-HUM

[ ] there were more than 100,000 concentration camp inmates in Chelyabinsk.

- Point 5. Former village of Pershino, an old settlement, since 1952 a part of Chelyabinsk.
- Point 6. Zinc plant. An area approximately 500 meters square, surrounded by a wooden fence three meters high. [ ] 50X1-HUM
- Point 7. Thermal Electric Power Station. Area about 500 meters square surrounded by a wooden fence about three meters high. Coal was used for fuel, and four to five smokestacks about 50 meters high, diameter unknown, could be seen in passing. [ ] 50X1-HUM
- Point 8. Chemical plant. Area approximately 500 meters square surrounded by a wooden fence three meters high. [ ] 50X1-HUM
- Point 9. Tube Rolling Mill (Truboprokatnyy Zavod). An area about one kilometer square surrounded by a wooden fence three meters high. This mill produced tubing for water conduit pipes. [ ] 50X1-HUM
- Point 10. Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant imeni Kirova. This was the largest tractor plant in the USSR and employed an estimated 50,000 to 100,000 people. It had its own metallurgical, chemical and coke plants and during W.W.II, manufactured T-34 tanks. After the war, the plant converted to the manufacture of the type S-80, 80 horsepower tractor. [ ] estimated [ ] it occupied an area five to six kilometers long and two kilometers wide. 50X1-HUM
- Point 11. Center of Chelyabinsk. Refer to page 13, [ ] sketch of the main streets and buildings in Chelyabinsk for additional details. 50X1-HUM
- Point 12. Ufa-Kurgan railroad (N54-43, E 55-58), (N 55-26, E 65-18).
- Point 13. Main railroad station. Refer to point 13 page 6, for further details.
- Point 14. Tank School. An area several hundred meters square surrounded by a stone or wooden fence three meters high. The inside could not be seen by passersby. [ ] student officers in town in the movies and in the restaurant near the main railroad station, (see point 23, page 6). All students were young men, in the grades of Junior and Senior Lieutenants. 50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-5-

50X1-HUM

Point 15. Agricultural Machinery Plant imeni Kalyuzhnogo, an area two to three kilometers in length, one-half kilometer to one kilometer in width, surrounded by a stone wall about three meters high. This plant manufactured seeding and winnowing machines, ploughs, combines, cultivators, etc. [redacted]

Point 16. Chelyabinsk Mechanical-Repair Plant. This plant was located about one kilometer east of the Ufa-Kurgan railroad line, one kilometer west of the northern shore of Lake Smolino and about seven kilometers south of the center of Chelyabinsk. It encompassed an area one kilometer square surrounded by a stone wall about three meters high. Special trains brought employees from Chelyabinsk to this plant, which manufactured various machine parts such as axles, rollers, gears and ball bearings. 50X1-HUM

Point 17. Village of Smolino.

5. Refer to page 13, [redacted] sketch of the main streets and buildings in Chelyabinsk. The following legend identifies the numerical designations. 50X1-HUM

Point 1. Militia Station, four-story, gray stucco building, with area dimensions 60-80 meters by 40 meters. The second floor contained the "OVIR" office (Otdel Viz i Registratsii - Section for Visa and Registration) where [redacted] a non-citizen, had to report every three months. This station was also the oblast militia headquarters. The militiamen wore a dark blue uniform with royal blue shoulderboards and short tunics (Kiteli). No further details known. 50X1-HUM

Point 2. Ulitsa Spartaka. The main street, about 25 meters wide, was asphalt paved.

Point 3. Market Square, 200 meters x 100 meters, where farmers sold farm produce.

Point 4. Ulitsa Kirova. Asphalt paved, about 25 meters wide. The corner of Kirova and Spartaka streets formed the center of Chelyabinsk.

Point 5. Hospital. Two-story white stucco building, size unknown, with cots and wards on the first floor, medical offices and operating rooms on the second floor.

Point 6. Post, Telephone and Telegraph Center. Two or three-story building, pink stucco, other details unknown.

Point 7. Ulitsa Pushkina, asphalt paved, about 10 meters wide.

Point 8. City library. Two-story white stucco building, about 100 meters x 50 meters in area dimension.

Point 9. Museum. Two-story gray stucco building, about 60 meters long and 30 meters wide which contained an exhibition illustrating the development of Chelyabinsk.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-6-

50X1-HUM

- Point 10. Statue of Pushkin.
- Point 11. Theater - large gray stucco building, called 'Teatr imeni Pushkina'.
- Point 12. Militia Station. One-story, gray stone building about 50 x 40 meters in area dimension surrounded by an iron stave fence two meters high. This was the headquarters of the oblast railroad militia. The railroad militiamen wore tall fur hats, dark blue uniforms. Their long, double breasted jackets had scarlet shoulderboards, and they wore sabers. They also wore a hood in cold weather. Their uniform contrasted to the city militia uniforms described under point 1, paragraph 5 above.
- Point 13. Main railroad station. Two-story yellow stucco building, size unknown, contained offices on the second floor. On the first floor there were ticket offices, waiting rooms, a buffet, luggage storage, etc.
- Point 14. Streets, names unknown, about 10 meters wide, asphalt paved.
- Point 15. Orthodox Church.
- Point 16. Various stores (Clothing, yard goods, shoe, furniture, houseware and drug stores).
- Point 17. Movies. Two-story, yellow stucco building about 100 meters long and 30 meters wide, with a main auditorium and balcony.
- Point 18. Street, name unknown, about 10 meters wide, asphalt paved.
- Point 19. Street, name unknown, about 12-15 meters wide, asphalt paved.
- Point 20. New building. This building, under construction in 1953, was supposed to be a large six to seven-story office and apartment building.
- Point 21. Party Headquarters. Five or six-story gray stucco building about 200 x 100 meters in area dimension, containing offices of the Communist Party, the Komsomol, the Oblast Ispolnitelnyy Komitet (oblast executive committee) and various party offices. Sentries were always stationed at the entrance of this building.
- Point 22. Street, name unknown, 12-15 meters wide, asphalt paved.
- Point 23. Restaurant. Three-story white stucco building about 100 x 40 meters in area dimension, with a kitchen, storage areas and dressing rooms on the first floor. The dining rooms were on the second and third floors.
- Point 24. Stadium. Large football and sports stadium called "Metallurgicherskiy Stadion", seating capacity 80,000 to 100,000 people.
- Point 25. Jail. Two five or six-story buildings, red brick, sizes unknown,

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-7-

50X1-HUM

surrounded by a stone wall four meters high.

Point 26. Prospekt Stalina. About 20 meters wide, asphalt paved in center of town, paved with cobblestones away from the center of town.

Point 27. Ulitsa Lenina, about 10 meters wide, asphalt covered.

6. Refer to page 14, [redacted] sketch of Bakalstroy, an area about six to seven kilometers by four kilometers, also called Metallurgical Rayon. The following legend identifies the numerical designations:

50X1-HUM

Point 1. Ulitsa Molotova - asphalt paved, about 20 meters wide, five to six kilometers long.

Point 2. House of Culture. Six-story, yellow stucco building, about 200 meters square, containing lecture rooms, a dramatic theater, two motion picture theaters, a gymnasium, library, game rooms, and reading rooms for the Metallurgical workers only. Sizes and capacities of the various rooms unknown [redacted]

50X1-HUM

Point 3. Rayon Party building. Four-story yellow stucco building about 100 meters square, contained offices of the Rayon Communist Party, Komsomol, Executive Committee and other party offices.

Point 4. Hospital. Two-story, white stucco building, about 150 x 50 meters in area dimension, surrounded by gardens and a park. Contained all types of wards and medical sections. No other details known.

Point 5. Living areas. This settlement, constructed during W.W.II by German prisoners of war and forced prison labor, consisted of 15-20 streets and 15-20 avenues. The first two streets (shown as 5a) had four-story, U-shaped, red brick buildings, occupying an entire block. The buildings were all alike, about 300 x 50-60 meters at the base, with two wings, each about 100 meters long and 50-60 meters wide. In the center of the U there were gardens or playgrounds. Each building had seven entrances.

The other streets in the settlement had about five buildings to a square block. These buildings were identical, two-story red brick, about 100-120 meters long and 40-50 meters wide.

50X1-HUM

Point 6. New construction. This settlement which was under construction in August 1953 contained 20-30 streets and 20-30 avenues. All houses were to be alike, made of prefabricated wooden walls and other parts. [redacted] one completed house [redacted] was 50 meters long and 30 meters wide, with a gabled tile roof, and [redacted] contained four apartments, one apartment for a family.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

Point 7. Field, gardens, and undeveloped areas.

Point 8. Road to Pershino - four to five meters wide, paved with cobblestones.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-8-

50X1-HUM

Point 9. Militia station. Two-story gray stucco building about 50 meters square surrounded by a wooden fence, one and one-half to two meters high, which housed the 7th Oddeleniye Militaiy (seventh section of the Militia). The militiamen wore dark blue uniforms, same as described in point 1, paragraph 5.

Point 10. Living area, settlement of old, one-story and two-story private homes, about 20 x 10 meters in area dimension, each with its own garden.

Point 11. Market. An open area 100 meters square where farmers put up stands and sold agricultural produce.

Point 12. Stores. Several two or three-story buildings. One was a department store, others sold household items, hardware, clothing and food.

50X1-HUM

Point 13. Shosse. A cobblestone road, (name unknown) about six to seven meters wide, which led to the Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant.

50X1-HUM

7. The majority of buildings in the center of Chelyabinsk were three or four-story stone, brick or stucco buildings. There was no television station in Chelyabinsk during the period 1949-1953. Chelyabinsk was divided into the following rayons:

- a. Zarechiye, ("behind the river"), was that part of the city north, east and west of the Missa River.
- b. Kirovskiy, the center of town.
- c. Leninskiy, the southern part where the main railroad station was located and which extended in the direction of Lake Smolino.
- d. Metallurgicheskii. This rayon included Bakalstroy, the area of the coke and zinc plants, the tube rolling mill, the chemical factory, the Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant and the concentration camps.
- e. ChTZ. Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant which included not only the plant, but also residences, stores, a House of Culture, parks, militia, etc., designated for plant employees.

8.

the power was supplied via high tension lines from TETS (point 7, page 12 ). The current was 220 volts for domestic consumption and 380 volts for industrial use. Chelyabinsk had no gas supply and food was cooked on electric or coal-wood stoves.

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM



CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

-9-

Transportation

9. Chelyabinsk had no subway system. It had one trolleybus line (number unknown) which went along Ulitsa Lenina, Prospekt Stalina and Ulitsa Spartaka (points 2, 26 and 27, page 13 ) and about 10 trolley lines. The trolley line routes were as follows:

#1 from the main railroad station, on Ulitsa Lenina and Prospekt Stalina (points 13, 26, 27, respectively, page 13 ).

#2 unknown

#3 along ulitsa Spartaka (point 2, page 13 ) to the Miass River.

#4 unknown

#5 started at the Miass river (where trolley #3 terminated) and went to the metallurgical plant (point 2, page 12 ).

#6 unknown

#7 served Bakalstrey (point 3, page 12 )

#8, #9 and #10 went from various starting points to the Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant (point 10, page 12 ).

Trolley line #5 was built and put into service in 1949. Prior to that time a bus went from Prospekt Stalina to the Metallurgical Plant.

Economic Conditions

10. In general, the people were offered a very small selection in purchasing clothing and personal items, and they had to choose from what was available. Source stated that the quality of men's suits was very poor. Some of the prices in 1950-1953 [ ] were:

50X1-HUM

Men's suit	up to 1500 rubles
pair of shoes	200-600 rubles
Shirt	100-200 rubles

Sociological Factors

11. Chelyabinsk published a four page daily called "Chelyabinsk Pravda" which cost .20 kopevki (0.20 ruble). [ ]

50X1-HUM

[ ] most of the newer population of Chelyabinsk, being young factory workers, [ ] did not attend church services. There was much bribery in Chelyabinsk, in almost any situation. For instance, if a man gave 50 rubles to the hotel registry clerk, the clerk would not ask if the man had all the proper documents, was alone in the room or with a girl, etc. [ ] he frequently treated his foreman to beer and vodka in order to be in his foreman's good graces. [ ] there was no discontent, criticism of underground activities in Chelyabinsk. [ ] no one would dare criticize the Party or government as people were sent to concentration

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

-10-

50X1-HUM

camp for such remarks.

### Personalities

12. [redacted] the First Oblast Party Secretary (a very important position - comparable to a US state governor) was BELAUSOV, (fmr). 50X1-HUM

13. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

### Secret Area near Kyshtyn

14. In the spring of 1953, the area of Kyshtyn was declared an "off limits area". The railroad line, which passed through Kyshtyn, was diverted from the town by a 10 kilometer detour, several kilometers away from Kyshtyn. The concentration camp inmates, females and males worked on the construction of "secret plants" in Kyshtyn.

[redacted] Many MVD guards were transferred from the concentration camps to Kyshtyn. 50X1-HUM

### Industrial Activities in the Chelyabinsk Oblast

15. [redacted] from newspapers and conversations the following information: 50X1-HUM
- a. There were large coal deposits near Korkino (N 54-54, E 61-23), about 25 kilometers south of Chelyabinsk. [redacted] the mines were operated with forced labor. Korkino supplied coal for all plants in Chelyabinsk. There were coal mines located along the railroad line to Magnitogorsk, in Kopyak (N 55-06, E 61-37), about 10 kilometers east of Chelyabinsk, and in Emzshelinskaya. 50X1-HUM
  - b. Iron was mined in Magnitogorsk (N 53-27, E 59-04). The Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Plant received iron ore from Magnitogorsk.
  - c. Zlato-Ust (N 55-10, E 59-40) had a large Metallurgical Plant.
  - d. In Miss (N 55-02, E 60-07) there was a large Automobile Plant, called Ural'skiy Zavod imeni Stalina.
  - e. Troitsk (N 54-05, E 61-37) (about 70 kilometers south of Chelyabinsk) was the main railroad junction in the Chelyabinsk Oblast.

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

**Page Denied**

CONFIDENTIAL

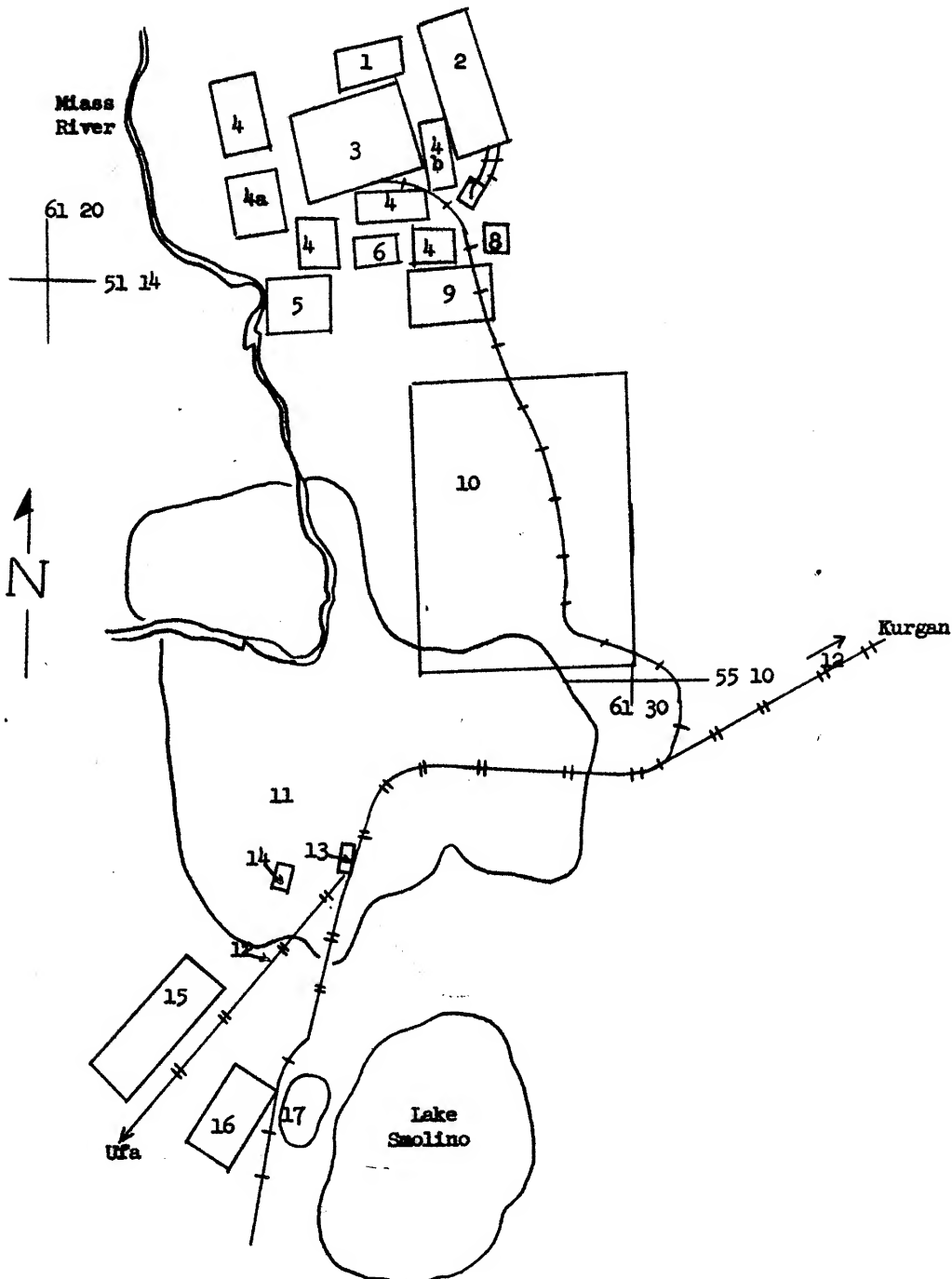
-12-

50X1-HUM

Overlay of Chelyabinsk

Scale 1:100,000

50X1-HUM



CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

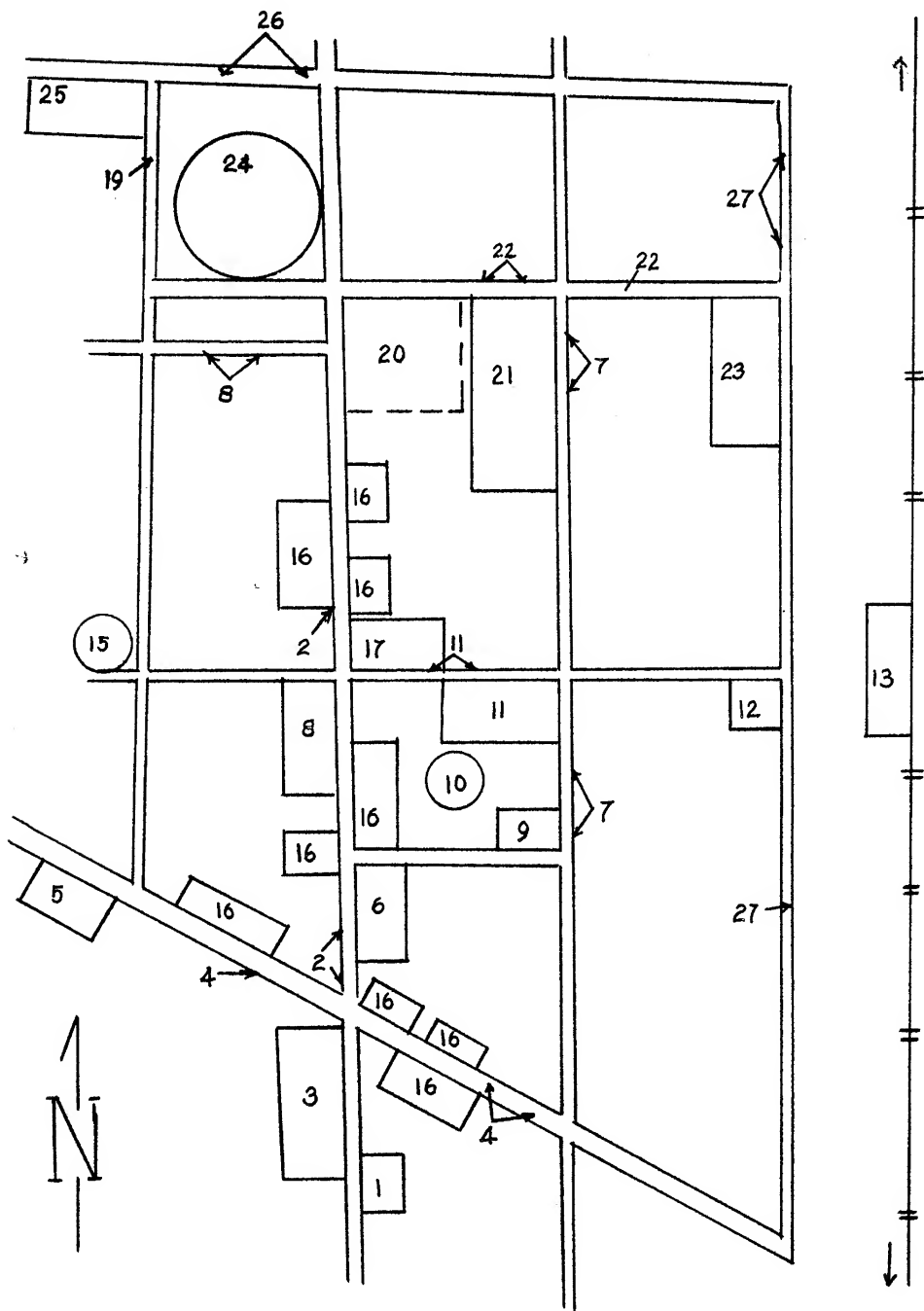
CONFIDENTIAL

-13-

50X1-HUM

Sketch of Chelyabinsk City Plan  
not to scale

50X1-HUM



CONFIDENTIAL

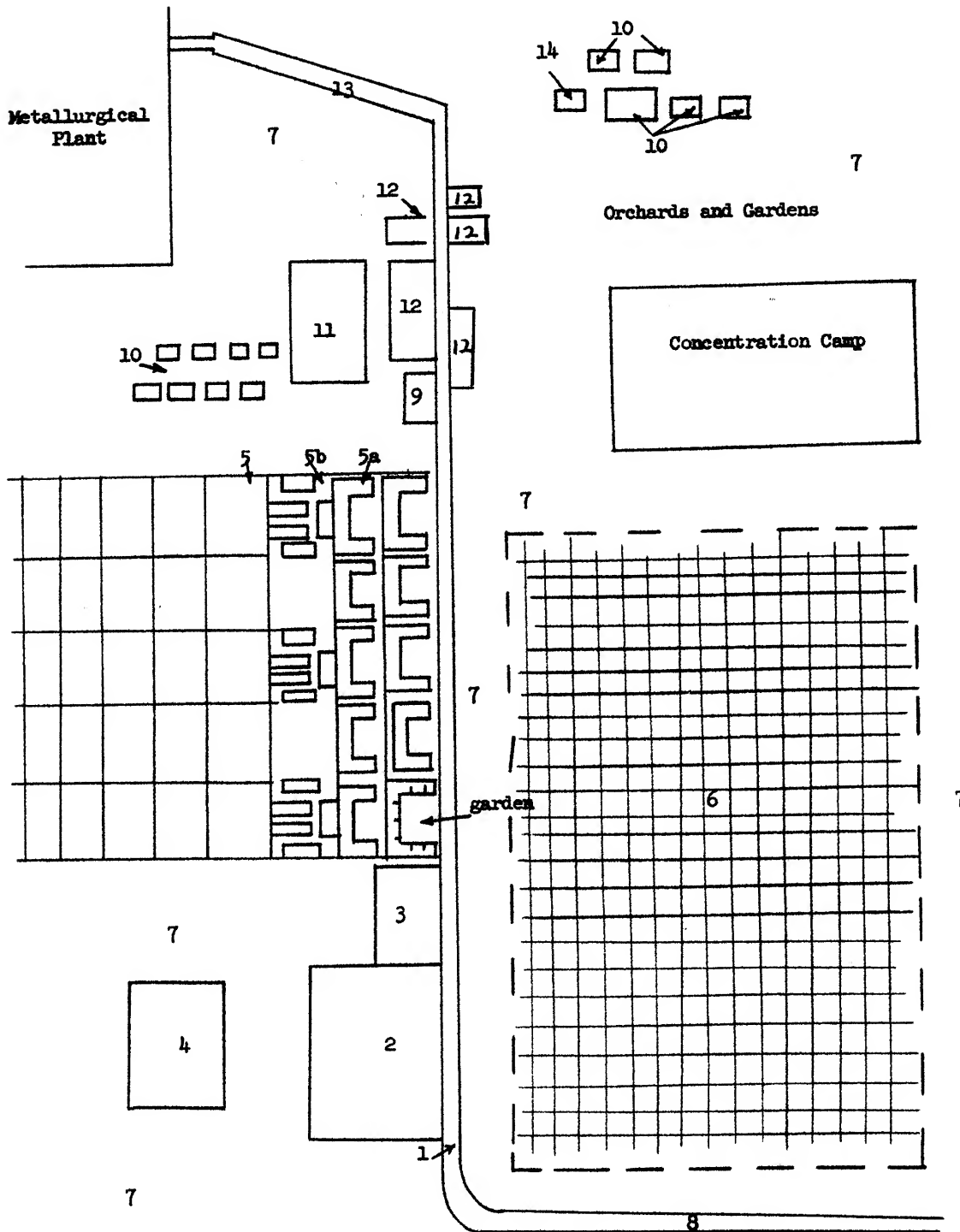
50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

-14-

Sketch of Bakalstroy  
(not to scale)



CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM